

Our Boys and Girls

A LULLABY.

The sun has gone from the shining skies;
Bye, baby, bye.

The dandelions have closed their eyes;
Bye, baby, bye.

And the stars are lighting their lamps to see
If the babies and squirrels and birds all three,
Are sound asleep as they ought to be.
Bye, baby, bye.

The squirrel is dressed in a coat of gray;
Bye, baby, bye.

He wears it at night as well as by day;
Bye, baby, bye.

The robin sleeps in his feathers and down
With the warm red breast and wings of brown,
But the baby wears a little white gown.
Bye, baby, bye.

The squirrel's nest is a hole in the tree;
Bye, baby, bye.

And there he sleeps as snug as can be;
Bye, baby, bye.

The robin's nest is high overhead,
Where the leafy boughs of the trees are spread;
But the baby's nest is a little white bed.
Bye, baby, bye.

—Exchange.

KINDERGARTENS IN JAPAN.

Japan is a land of little children. The homes are full of them; the streets are crowded with them, and the grandmothers' backs are loaded with them.

The most accessible people are the little children. The ones in the primary schools soon have their minds poisoned toward Christianity by the teachers. The High School boy, like so many of our own boys, has other interests. The college man is often an agnostic. But the little children all come with open hearts.

All our Sunday Schools are crowded. The little ones just delight to come. Would that you could hear them sing "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know." This early Christian touch has an eternal influence.

The day kindergartens fill up as soon as they are opened. Nearly all the better class of people want to enter their children in a Christian kindergarten. Many a heathen home owes its first introduction to Christianity to a kindergarten. Little Kiku San carries the Gospel where it would be impossible for the missionary to go.

The government seems to have overlooked the value of the kindergarten, for it has not entered the field very extensively. The kindergarten is one of the greatest openings for Christian service in Japan.

We need funds for suitable buildings. There ought to be first-class equipment, too. Then there is the salary of the teacher to be considered.

We want all the girls and boys of the Southern Presbyterian Church to pray that these kindergartens may be established.

S. M. Erickson.

Dear Girls and Boys: How many of you went to kindergarten or ever saw one? If you have ever seen or read about one I know you will be interested in these kindergartens for the little Japanese. Can't you just imagine how dear they must look standing around the ring all dressed in pretty bright kimonos or sitting on the floor for lunch?

Remember these little folk and ask Jesus to help us teach them of Him.

H. A.

Success, like a four-leaf clover, is often found after diligently searching.

"TO HIM THAT HATH."

"Come in, Aunt Nan!" Beth jumped up to welcome her visitor. "You've come in the very nick of time! I'm in an awful tangle over my Sunday-school lesson. It's the parable of the talents, you know. 'Unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance; but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.' I can't go any further. It seems so unfair. Don't you think so, Aunt Nan?"

"I did once," answered Aunt Nan.

"Well, I do now. So I took it to father. All he said was, 'Well, that's life, daughter. There's no use in butting your head against the stone wall of facts. We didn't make the rules of this game of life. We're just put here to play it to the best of our ability.' Do you agree to that, Aunt Nan?"

"Why, yes," said Aunt Nan, thoughtfully, "I suppose I do."

"Well, then"—Beth's eyes blazed defiantly—"I think it's unjust and unfair! To take away the one talent from the poor man who had only that one, and give it to the man who had ten already! It seems just cruel."

She stopped, half expecting a rebuke; but Aunt Nan smiled sympathetically.

"So you think the talents are what one man had and the other had not?" she asked.

Beth, still flushed with her indignation, caught a startled breath.

"Why, yes," she stammered. "What else could it mean?"

"As for the talents, many or few, as the case may be, was any one actually given nothing?"

"No-o; but one man had only one. That's practically nothing."

"Only one, to be sure. But do you suppose if he had traded with it, and gained even one other, that they would have been taken away?"

"No-o, but—"

"What was it that the one-talent man lacked? Opportunity?"

"No-o. I suppose it was the ability to make money. Some people haven't that—some of the nicest people."

"But it says, 'To every man according to his several ability—'" Aunt Nan's words fell on Beth's heat like a breath of cool air.

"Yes, so it does. Well, then, what did he lack?"

"What word of praise was said to the other men?"

Beth bent over her book. "'Well done, thou good and faithful servant,' she read, 'thou hast been faithful over a few things—'" She looked up quickly. "Aunt Nan, was it faithfulness that the man lacked?"

"Yes, I think so. Faithfulness, for one thing. Suppose you read on."

Beth obeyed hastily. "'Wicked and slothful servant,'" came out at last triumphantly. "Oh, I see! He lacked the opposites of sloth—industry and perseverance and the little, everyday virtues! Why, it's clear now, Aunt Nan. Those are things that he could have grown, couldn't he, in all the long time that his master was away?"

"If he hadn't willfully misunderstood that master," answered Aunt Nan.

"There's another side of the lesson, too, Beth, that I want you to see. What good did that one talent do to any one, even to the

wicked and slothful servant, while he had it wrapped in a napkin? Was it really any loss to him when it was taken away?"

"No!" Beth exclaimed. "He really wasn't a bit worse off for not having it; so it wasn't unfair even from that point of view. The other servant and the world and the master were all better off when it was in the other servant's hands to be used! Why, I never thought of that! I'm going to begin looking round for my one talent this very minute."

"And then?"

"And then I'm going to be perfectly sure that I have the faithfulness and perseverance to make it grow. That's what you mean, don't you? Aunt Nan, one of your five talents is certainly the talent for making things clear. I'm glad you're growing it into ten, for I know I shall need it that many times!"—Unidentified.

B. L. C.

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down. Yea, and we wept, when we remembered Zion. Psalm 137:1.

Lord I cry unto Thee; make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice when I cry unto Thee. Psalm 141:1.

Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth. Psalm 71:9.

Bernard Landen Crew.

TALLEST STATUE IS DEDICATED TO LIBERTY.

Nearly every child in the United States knows that in New York harbor stands a large statue called "Liberty Enlightening the World."

But do you know that the statue was made by a French sculptor, named Frederich Auguste Bartholdi, and given to our country by France, and was erected on Bedloe's Island in the harbor in 1886?

The immense bronze figure of Liberty, that stands a few inches more than 111 feet, was designed for the one hundredth anniversary of American independence, which was celebrated in 1876. It took many years to make this statue, and it was not until 1881 that it was brought to the United States. During the next five years money was raised to build the foundation by the people of our country, and the statue was dedicated on October 28, 1886, being the highest in the world and weighing 450,000 pounds. From the base of the foundation to the torch are 403 steps. The right arm, that is raised, is forty-two feet long; the hand measuring sixteen feet, while Liberty's index finger is eight feet in length; the nail on that finger is thirteen by ten inches. In the arm is a ladder that has fifty-four rungs on it.

The nose is more than four feet long, the head more than seventeen feet. The mouth is three feet wide; each eye measures two feet, and the distance across the face from ear to ear is ten feet.

The torch is almost 306 feet above the mean tide of the bay and twelve persons can stand on the platform at the foot of the torch. In the head is a similar platform, where forty can comfortably stand.

Such a large statue, that cost when completed about \$600,000, was a wonderful gift from France, and the powerful electric light, that is operated by the lighthouse service of our government, lights the New York harbor and the Atlantic Ocean for many, many miles. —Kansas City Star.

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom, and with all thy getting get understanding.—Prov. 4:7.